

Houston Graduate School of Theology
COU 620 Addictive Behavior and Treatment
Spring, 2014: Tuesday: 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM
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The mission of Houston Graduate School of Theology is empowering spiritual leadership through the intellectual, spiritual, and vocational development of men and women in order to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

I. Course Description

A study of the factors that contribute to addictive behavior and substance abuse and the various treatment modalities. Includes a history of addiction in North America, predisposing and sociocultural dimensions, screening and diagnosis, pharmacology of substances, legal issues, family systems, and prevention and treatment approaches, including the role of spirituality and the AA movement. Available to MDiv students with prior approval (see faculty advisor).

The course will focus on the following four core areas:

1. The Neurobiology of Addiction
2. The DSM 5 and Substance Abuse Disorders
3. Counseling the Addicted Individual
4. Addiction and Grace: Love and Spirituality in the Healing of Addictions

II. Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will understand the most common theories about the causes of addictive behavior and the neurological brain components.
2. Students will be able to identify the impact of addiction on society.
3. Students will be able to recognize and articulate the common symptoms and signs of various drugs of abuse.
4. Students will identify the most common treatments of drug addiction.
5. Students will develop treatment plans that demonstrate an appreciation and understanding of biological, psychological and social causes for addictive behavior.
6. Students will be able to integrate spirituality into the recovery process.

III. Texts

APA. *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition*. APA, Washington DC, July 2009. ISBN 978-1-4338-0561-5

Erickson, C. *The Science of Addiction: From Neurobiology to Treatment*. Norton Professional Books. ISBN-13978-0393704631.

May, G. G. *Addiction and Love: Grace and Spirituality in the Healing of Addictions*. HarperOne; Reissue edition (January 9, 2007). ISBN-13: 978-0061122439

Pita, D. D. *Addictions Counseling: A Practical and Comprehensive Guide for Counseling People with Addictions*. The Crossroad Publishing Company; Revised and updated edition (May 1, 2004) ISBN-13: 978-0824522629

IV. Course Requirements

- A. Four multiple choice/brief essay examinations covering the four core areas of the course: 100 points.
- B. Students will complete a treatment plan on a case vignette provided by the instructor. A treatment plan outline will be provided. Students may employ any of the treatment approaches discussed in the course: 50 points.
- C. Students will visit a treatment center or attend an open AA meeting and compose a five page report detailing the treatment philosophy, treatment approach, and their reflections of their experiences: 25 points.
- D. Students will write a five page paper on the integration of spirituality with addiction treatment: 25 points.
- E. Total grading points = 200.

V. Grading Scale

200 - 185 = A - A-
184 - 170 = B+ - B-
169 - 155 = C+ - C-
154 - 140 = D+ - D -
139 - = F

VI. Policies

- A. Regular attendance and submission of assignments on due dates in syllabus is expected. Each student must talk to the instructor about circumstances affecting his or her ability to attend class and complete assignments. Attendance is required at scheduled classes and at the scheduled start time. The student could lose as much as a letter grade for excessive tardiness.
- B. Work is expected on the due date. Students should expect a grade reduction of up In cases of extenuating circumstances, and at the discretion of the instructor, a student may request and apply for an extension on all required assignments, which are not completed by the end of the semester or term, subject to a 5-point grade reduction on the final grade of each assignment. If an extension is granted, the instructor will record a grade of "I" (Incomplete) and set an extension of time, not to exceed thirty calendar days from the end of the class, within which to complete the work. Additional extensions may be granted only by the Academic Dean or Associate Dean and only after a student has petitioned the Dean in writing. If the course work is not completed within the extended time allotment,

the grade of “I” will be converted to the grade earned by the student up to that point. The student is responsible to ensure that all necessary paperwork is submitted to the registrar’s office by the deadline published in the school calendar.

C. Turnitin.com

1. All written assignments are subject to required submission to www.turnitin.com to check for originality and style. The assignments that are required for submission will be described in the syllabus.
2. Students will create an account at www.turnitin.com. After doing so, the student will join the course page with the code and password supplied by the instructor. A list of assignments and due dates will be available on the course page.
3. Students will submit assignments by the due date and time, but they will still submit the assignments in a hard copy format.

D. Electronic Equipment Usage in Classrooms

It is expected that students will use technology (cell phones, laptop computers, iPads, etc.) during classes only for the purposes of class work. Therefore, students should turn off cell phones and refrain from texting and using laptop computers during classes except for the purposes of taking notes or doing research specifically authorized by the course instructor. Students who have emergency needs not covered by this policy must ask for an exception from the course instructor.

E. Incompletes

In cases of extenuating circumstances, and at the discretion of the instructor, a student may request and apply for an extension on all required assignments, which are not completed by the end of the semester or term, subject to a 5-point grade reduction on the final grade of each assignment. If an extension is granted, the instructor will record a grade of “I” (Incomplete) and set an extension of time, not to exceed thirty calendar days from the end of the class, within which to complete the work. Additional extensions may be granted only by the Academic Dean or Associate Dean and only after a student has petitioned the Dean in writing. If the course work is not completed within the extended time allotment, the grade of “I” will be converted to the grade earned by the student up to that point. The student is responsible to ensure that all necessary paperwork is submitted to the registrar’s office by the deadline published in the school calendar.

F. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting the work of another person as one’s own without giving proper credit for the use of the information. Students must not quote books, articles, essays, or Internet sites without giving proper credit to the author(s). Students should guard against plagiarism by crediting the original author through use of proper citations. Internet plagiarism is a particularly easy and tempting form of intellectual theft. Cutting and pasting sentences and paragraphs from the Internet without citations is plagiarism. Failure to cite Internet sources is plagiarism. Any student who is found guilty of plagiarism is subject to a range of penalties:

1. If suspicions are confirmed, the faculty member will present the evidence to the appropriate Associate Dean as a record of the offense. If the Associate Dean concurs with the allegations, the following procedures should be implemented as applicable:

The faculty member may discuss the offense with the student following consultation with the Associate Dean, but the student will meet with the Associate Dean. For a first offense, the faculty member, in consultation with the Associate Dean, may give opportunity for a rewrite of the assignment or may assign a grade of zero or the plagiarized assignment. For a particularly egregious case of plagiarism on a major assignment, the consequences could result in automatic failure of the course. For a particularly egregious case of plagiarism on a major assignment, the consequences could result in automatic failure of the course.

2. The student may appeal the above-mentioned decisions of the faculty member in writing to the Academic Dean.
3. The second confirmed offense will result in expulsion from school. The student will be notified by a letter from the Academic Dean. His or her only opportunity for appeal will be to the President in writing. The President's decision will be final.

G. Library Usage

A student's ability to get the most out of library resources will enhance the possibility of earning a high grade in this class. Therefore, students should consider using, in addition to the HGST library, one or more of the following libraries.

1. Houston Public Library— any resident of Texas can obtain a free Houston Public Library card. Library cardholders have access to all of the books in the library system as well as the use of free interlibrary loans, meaning that HPL cardholders can borrow almost any book available. Cardholders can use the library's website, www.houstonlibrary.org, to search the catalog and manage interlibrary loans. The website also contains links to WorldCat and other online databases that will enhance your research. The HPL location that is closest to HGST, the Collier Regional Branch ([832-393-1740](tel:832-393-1740)), is located at 6200 Pinemont, which is less than three miles from campus. A better option would be the newly expanded and renovated Central Library ([832-393-1313](tel:832-393-1313)), which is located downtown at 500 McKinney. In addition, HPL has many other locations. The HGST library can give you an application for an HPL library card, or you can print the application form from their website.
2. Fondren Library at Rice University— the Fondren Library ([713-348-5113](tel:713-348-5113)) is located at 6100 Main. Please visit www.rice.edu/fondren for more information. procedure for borrowing books at the Fondren Library is, first, go to the online catalog [www.rice.edu/fondren] to search for available books; second, go to the HGST library and fill out a form, signed by HGST library personnel, to take with you to the Fondren Library for each book; third, retrieve the book(s) yourself; fourth, take the book(s) and the signed form to the circulation desk to complete checkout (return the yellow copy to the HGST library; when the book(s) are returned to the Fondren Library, they will indicate so on the pink and gold copies; return the pink copy to the HGST Library and keep the gold copy for your records).
3. Lanier Theological Library is a new resource for scholarly theological research in the Houston area. The library is open to the public, Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

The library is a research library with no circulation privileges. Nonetheless, students should consider Lanier Library to be a valuable research option. The catalog of Lanier Library is available online.

4. Cardinal Beran Library at St Mary's Seminary—the home of an extensive theological library, St Mary's Seminary ([713-686-4345](tel:713-686-4345)) is located at 9845 Memorial Drive, only 4.6 miles from HGST. For more information, please visit <http://beran.stthom.edu>. The Doherty Library on the main campus of University of St Thomas is also an option.
5. Library of the Presbytery of the New Covenant – as an HGST student you have borrowing privileges at this library located at 1110 Lovett Blvd, Houston.
6. Other options include Harris County Public Library (s) and the libraries at the University of Houston and Houston Baptist University.

VII. Notes for Writing Assignments

- A. Writing assignments should conform to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition* with regard to format and style.
- B. The informed consent form written by the student does not have to use APA style and format.
- C. The student should utilize 12-point Times New Roman font throughout. The instructor prefers that the student not use presentation or report binders or folders. He prefers submission of papers with staples or binder clips.
- D. Critical or formal writing differs from colloquial writing or spoken English at several points. The student should note the following guidelines for critical writing. The instructor expects students to follow these guidelines strictly. Failure to do so will be penalized.
 1. Avoid 1st or 2nd person references (“I,” “we,” or “you”). Keep the written projects objective and professional. The student must remember that imperative forms are second person.
 2. Never use contractions.
 3. Avoid passive voice construction (i.e. The student should write “God chose Joshua” rather than “Joshua was chosen by God.”). Some exceptions are necessary, but limiting the use of passive voice is a good policy.
 4. Be sure that number and tense always agree (i.e., Do not write in one place that “Brueggemann argues . . .” and at another place “Brueggemann argued . . .”). Subject-verb agreement is imperative.
 5. Spellcheck! Spellcheck! Spellcheck! Dr. Ditsky does not tolerate misspelled words. Failure to spellcheck will result in a substantive reduction on the grade for written assignments.
 6. Grammar check works as well!
 7. All pronouns should have clear antecedents. Avoiding “it is” and “there is” in the paper removes much of the ambiguity of pronoun usage.
 8. Sentence fragments are unacceptable. Every sentence must have a subject and a predicate.

VIII. Class and Reading Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading and Assignment
Session 1: January 21, 2014	Pre-Test Overview of Course; assignments; readings. The problem <i>of</i> addiction; the problem <i>with</i> addiction	Erickson, ch.1
Session 2: January 28, 2014	Basics of brain science; anatomy and neurobiology of chemical dependence; genetics	Erickson, ch.2-4
Session 3: February 4, 2014	Stimulants, depressants, alcohol, other drugs, designer drugs	Erickson, ch.5-7
Session 4: February 11, 2014	Overview of dependence treatment; research	Erickson, ch.8-10
Session 5: February 18, 2014	First examination on first four topics; An over-view of DSM 5 “Gambling” Disorder	Treatment facility or open AA meeting attendance: take notes DSM 5: “Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders”
Session 6: February 25, 2014	Second examination on DSM 5 and Handout Introduction to treatment Non DSM 5 “Addictions” Substance versus Behavior	Handout from instructor Pita, ch. 1-3
Note	When visiting an addiction treatment center or AA, take note of the treatment philosophy, treatment approach (what counseling methods are employed) and your reactions.	
Session 7: March 4, 2014	Guest Speaker: A Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor	Pita, ch. 4-7 Begin reading May
Session 8: March 11, 2014	Motivational Interviewing; Dual Diagnosis; Special Populations	Facility or AA Paper is Due Pita, ch. 8-10
March 15-23: Spring Break Session 9: March 25, 2014	Recovery Counseling Overview, Stages I-III	Pita, ch. 11-13
Session 10: April 1, 2014	Stages IV-VII	Pita, ch. 14-15
Session 11: April 8, 2014	Counseling Conclusions	Pita, Conclusions and Appendices
Session 12: April 15, 2014	Third examination Addiction and Grace	May, ch. 1-4 Treatment Plan is Due
Session 13: April 22, 2014	Addiction and Grace	May, ch. 5-8 Expand treatment plan to include spiritual process

Session 14: April 29, 2014	Class Discussion on readings in May:	Treatment plan including spirituality is due
Session 15: May 6, 2014	Final examination: Areas covered within the course	All papers are due by 5 PM; papers submitted on this date will receive a deduction of 5 points; this instructor will not approve of an extension.

The professor of record reserves the right to adjust classroom topics as the course develops.

IX. Bibliography

Required textbooks constitute the bibliography for this course. The instructor will provide articles and handouts at certain times in the course.